

1 **Amendments to the claims:**

2 This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

3 **Listing of Claims:**

4 **I claim:**

5 1. (Original) A chinrest pad system for use with a chinrest including a chinrest member
6 with a support surface, two adjustable clamping elements, each said clamping element
7 includes an upper metal rod that connects to said chinrest member and a lower metal rod that
8 includes a lower flange plate and a turnbuckle, said pad system comprising;

9 a. an upper pad with an flat outside surface and a lower inside surface that
10 matches the curvature of a upper angled edge and adjacent surface of a string instrument, said
11 upper pad also including a rearward extending lip that partially extends around said upper
12 angled edge and prevents said upper metal rod on said clamping element from contacting
13 said upper angle edge of said string instrument; and,

14 b. a lower pad with a flat outside surface and an inside surface that matches the
15 curvature of a lower angled edge and adjacent surface of a string instrument, said lower pad
16 also including a rearward extending lip structure that prevents said lower metal rod on said
17 clamping element from contacting said lower angled edge of said string instrument.

18
19 2. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 1, wherein said upper pad is a
20 narrow, elongated structure that extends transversely under a chinrest member.

21
22 3. (Original) The chinrest pad system, as recited in Claim 2, wherein said upper pad is
23 made of elastic material.

- 1 4. (Currently Amended) The chinrest pad system, as recited in Claim 4, 1 wherein said
2 upper pad is made of cork.
3
- 4 5. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 1, wherein said lower pad is a
5 narrow, elongated structure.
6
- 7 6. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 5, wherein said lower pad is made
8 of elastic material.
9
- 10 7. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 6, wherein said lower pad is made
11 of cork.
12
- 13 8. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 2, wherein said lower pad is a
14 narrow, elongated structure.
15
- 16 9. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 8, wherein said lower pad is made
17 of elastic material.
18
- 19 10. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 9, wherein said lower pad is
20 made of cork.
21
- 22 11. (Original) The chinrest pad system, as recited in Claim 1, wherein said lower pad is flat
23 triangular structure.

1 12. (Original) The chinrest pad system, as recited in Claim 11, wherein said lower pad is
2 made of elastic material.

3
4 13. (Original) The chinrest pad system as recited in Claim 12, wherein said lower pad is
5 made of cork.

6
7 14. (Currently Amended) A method for minimizing dampening and preventing damaged
8 cause by a chinrest on a string instrument, comprising the following steps:

9 a. selecting a chinrest 8 that includes a chinrest member 32 with a support surface 34,
10 two adjustable clamping elements 40, 40', each said clamping element 40, 40' includes at
11 least one upper metal rod 42 that connects to said chinrest member 32, a turnbuckle, and a
12 lower metal rod 46 that includes a lower flange 47;

13 b. selecting an upper pad 15 that includes an inside surface 16 that matches the
14 curvature of the top surface 92 of a string instrument 90 and a flat outside surface 17, said
15 upper pad 15 also including a rearward extending lip structure 20 that prevents said upper
16 metal rod 42 on said clamping element 40 from contacting the ~~lower~~ upper angled edge 97 of
17 the string instrument 90;

18 c. positioning said upper pad 15 over said instrument so that said outside surface 27
19 is disposed under said support surface on said chinrest member 32;

20 d. selecting a lower pad 25 that includes a flat outside ~~surface~~ surface 28 and an
21 inside surface 26 that matches the curvature of a lower angled edge 97 and adjacent surface
22 96 of said instrument 92, said lower pad 25 also including a rearward extending lip structure
23 30 that prevents said lower metal rod 46 ~~or 46'~~ on said clamping element 40, ~~or 40'~~ from

1 contacting the lower angled edge 97 on said instrument 92.

2 e. positioning said outside surface 28 of said lower pad 25 on said flange 47 on said
3 clamping member 40; and,

4 f. positioning said chinrest member 32 over said instrument 90 so that said inside
5 surface 16 on said upper pad 15 engages the upper angled edge 93 and adjacent surface 92 of
6 said instrument 90;

7 g. positioning said clamping member 32 so that said inside surface 26 of said lower
8 pad 25 engages the lower angle edge 97 and adjacent surface 96 of said string instrument 90;

9 h. adjusting said clamping element 40 until said chinrest member 32 is held securely
10 on said instrument 90.